

1. (Amended) A method for detecting the fungus *Stachybotrys chartarum*, comprising:
isolating DNA from a sample suspected of containing the fungus *Stachybotrys chartarum*;

subjecting the DNA to polymerase chain reaction amplification utilizing at least one primer, wherein the at least one primer comprises one of a (SEQ. ID NO. 1) 5'GTTGCTTCGGCGGGAAC3' and (SEQ. ID NO. 2) 5'TTTGCGTTTGCCACTCAGAG3' base sequence; and

detecting the fungus *Stachybotrys chartarum* by visualizing the product of the polymerase chain reaction.

12. (Amended) A method for detecting the presence of the fungus *Stachybotrys chartarum*, comprising:

obtaining a sample from the environment;

extracting DNA from the sample; and

amplifying the extracted DNA by polymerase chain reaction utilizing one or more primers to obtain an indication of the presence of *Stachybotrys chartarum* in the sample,

wherein the one or more primers comprise at least one of a (SEQ. ID NO. 1)

5'GTTGCTTCGGCGGGAAC3' and (SEQ. ID NO. 2) 5'TTTGCGTTTGCCACTCAGAG3' base sequence.